

ZEMER ATIK  
(Israeli)

When Rivkah Sturman returned to Israel from the United States in 1958 she decided there was a need for a simple dance with a Jewish motif and Israeli flavor. It needed to be so simple that the whole nation could participate. Rivkah choreographed the dance, Zemer Atik, which means "Ancient Song", then went to Amitai Ne'eman, who had composed many folk songs, then to M Kastan. In this way was created the folk dance, the music and the words.

MUSIC: Record: Symphonia LP HS 201  
Melodic line: Songs and Folk Dances, #3, 28 Edition, Negen  
Joel Schreiber, 59 Allenby St., Tel-Aviv, 1958

FORMATION: Cpls in a single circle. W in front of M, R hand on L  
shoulder of person in front. All face in CCW LOD.

STEPS: Running, step-bend.

MUSIC 4/4

PATTERN

2 Measures INTRODUCTION

1-2 I-a) Begin with R. Do 4 light running steps fwd (ct 1-4). Step fwd R (ct 1); clap hands slightly fwd R outside circle (ct 2); Step fwd L (ct 3); clap hands slightly fwd L inside circle (ct 4). Keep hands at shoulder height.

3-8 Repeat action of I-a 3 times.

9-10 I-b) All face ctr of circle. Hold hands, elbows bent, shoulder height. HANDS ARE NOT JOINED. 2 step-bends R L twd center (ct 1,3); snap fingers on (ct 2,4). Begin R and move bwd with 4 light running steps (ct 1-4); bring hands gradually down to side. Body bends fwd slightly.

11-16 Repeat action of I-b 3 times.

1-2 II-a) Cpls in dble circle, M on inside. Face CCW with inside hands joined. Begin R, do 4 running steps fwd (ct 1-4); Facing ptr do 2 step-bend steps toward ptr (ct 1-4).

3 M sends W fwd to new ptr. W takes 4 light running steps; M does 4 steps in place (ct 1-4).

4 Face new ptr. Join inside hands and do 2 step-bends in place (ct 1-4).

5-8 Repeat action II-a again changing ptrs on meas 5 and 7.

II-b) Couples face CCW; inside hands joined.

1 Begin R. Do 2 step-bends fwd (ct 1-4).

2 W takes 4 light running steps in place while making a  $\frac{1}{2}$  turn CCW under M's R arm. M does 4 steps in place (ct 1-4). M keeps R arm above W's head. W places R hand at small of M's back. M's L arm remains at side.

3 Both turn CW with 2 step-bends (ct 1-4).

4 W continues to turn CW to LOD with 4 running steps. M passes behind W's back to original pos with 4 light running steps (ct 1-4).

5-8 Repeat action of II-b. Finish in single line R hand on L shoulder of person ahead.